

AS

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/912,250

Applicant(s)

GROEBLACHER ET AL.

Examiner

Joseph S. Del Sole

Art Unit

1722

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the response of 3/9/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 6 and 8-13.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 16 January 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>3/30/04</u> |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jim Smith on 3/30/04.

The application has been amended as follows:

cancel claims 1-5;

the following listing shall replace the claims:

Claims 1-5. (Canceled).

Claim 6. (Previously Presented) An extrusion die comprising:

a bushing plate having a flow path therein shaping an exterior profile of melt flowing therethrough to a non-circular cross-sectional profile;

a profile pin within the flow path of the bushing plate shaping an interior profile of the flowing melt; and

a first adjustment plate facing the bushing plate and surrounding the profile pin and moveable in a direction transverse to the flow of the melt to provide a shift of the non-circular cross-sectional profile of the flowing melt, movement of the first adjustment plate being restricted to be along a first transverse axis.

Claim 7. (Canceled).

Claim 8. (Previously Presented) An extrusion die comprising:

a bushing plate having a flow path therein shaping an exterior profile of melt flowing therethrough to a non-circular cross-sectional profile;

a profile pin within the flow path of the bushing plate shaping an interior profile of the flowing melt; and

a first adjustment plate facing the bushing plate and surrounding the profile pin and moveable in a direction transverse to the flow of the melt to provide a shift of the non-circular cross-sectional profile of the flowing melt, movement of the first adjustment plate being restricted to prevent rotation relative to the bushing plate, wherein the bushing plate further comprises:

non-circular cross-sectional surfaces defining a flow path through the bushing plate to maintain the desired non-circular cross-sectional profile therethrough; and

opposing protrusions at a distal end from a face of the bushing plate defining at a distal end an adjustment channel which receives shoulders of a first adjustment plate and locates the first adjustment plate therein to prevent rotation of the first adjustment plate relative to the bushing plate.

Claim 9. (Previously Presented) The extrusion die of claim 6, wherein the first adjustment plate further comprises:

non-circular cross-sectional surfaces defining a flow path through the first adjustment plate to maintain the desired non-circular cross-sectional profile therethrough;

shoulders at a proximal end from a face of the first adjustment plate moveable within an adjusting channel of a bushing plate to prevent rotation of the first adjustment plate relative to the bushing plate; and

opposing adjusting channels from a distal face which receive shoulders of a second adjustment plate and locate the second adjustment plate therein to prevent rotation of the second adjustment plate relative to the first adjustment plate.

Claim 10. (Previously Presented) An extrusion die as claimed in claim 6 further comprising:

a second adjustment plate facing the first adjustment plate and surrounding the profile pin moveable orthogonal to the first adjustment plate to provide an orthogonal shift of the non-circular cross-sectional profile of the flowing melt, movement of the second adjustment plate being restricted to prevent rotation relative to the first adjustment plate.

Claim 11. (original) The extrusion die of claim 10, wherein the second adjustment plate further comprises:

non-circular cross-sectional surfaces defining a flow path through the second adjustment plate to maintain the desired non-circular cross-sectional profile therethrough; and

opposing shoulders at a proximal end from a face of the second adjustment plate moveable within adjusting channels of a first adjustment plate to prevent rotation of the second adjustment plate relative to the first adjustment plate.

Claim 12. (Original) An extrusion die as claimed in claim 6 further comprising:

a first bushing plate defining a flow path to maintain the circular cross-sectional profile exterior of the flowing melt;

a second bushing plate defining a flow path to shape the circular melt exterior to the desired non-circular cross-sectional profile exterior of the flowing melt; and

a third bushing plate defining a flow path to maintain the desired non-circular cross-sectional profile exterior of the flowing melt.

Claim 13. (Original) An extrusion die as claimed in claim 6 further comprising:

a first section defining a flow path to maintain the circular cross-sectional profile interior of the flowing melt;

a second section defining a flow path to shape the circular melt interior to the desired non-circular cross-sectional profile interior of the flowing melt; and

a third section defining a flow path to maintain the desired non-circular cross-sectional profile interior of the flowing melt.

Claims 14-17. (Canceled).

Correspondence

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Joseph S. Del Sole whose telephone number is (571) 272-1130. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ms. Wanda Walker, can be reached at (571) 272-1151. The official fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306 for both non-after finals and for after finals.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from the either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

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you have questions on the access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 886-217-9197 (toll-free).

Joseph S. del Sol

J.S.D.

March 30, 2004



ROBERT DAVIS
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 1300 / 1700

3/31/04